

Brief

Microsoft Select License, Open License, Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) License, and Full-Packaged Product (FPP) License Downgrade Rights

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Corporate Government and Academic ◆ Select License ◆ Open Business, Value, and Volume Licenses ◆ Enterprise Agreement (EA) ◆ Campus Agreement ◆ All Academic Programs

Downgrade rights grant the right to use prior versions of Microsoft software. Microsoft Volume Licensing programs include specific downgrade rights. The chart below compares volume licensing downgrade rights with those acquired through OEM and FPP licenses.

Downgrade Rights for Software Acquired Through Select License, Open License, OEM, and FPP, by Product Pool

Software License Agreement Type	Applications Software	Systems Software	Server Software
Select License and Open License	Downgrade rights are granted with all applications software licenses acquired through the Select License and Open License programs.	Downgrade rights are granted with all systems software licenses acquired through the Select License and Open License programs.	Downgrade rights are granted with all server software licenses acquired through the Select License and Open License programs.
Licenses Enrolled in Software Assurance (SA)	Downgrade rights are granted in connection with all applications software licenses acquired through FPP and OEM upon enrollment in SA through the Select License or Open License programs (that is, once the user exercises such rights in connection with the user's Open/Select License). Note that the only OEM versions of applications software that will qualify for enrollment in SA are OEM versions of Microsoft Office 2003 editions and its individual applications.	Downgrade rights are granted in connection with most systems software licenses acquired through FPP and OEM upon enrollment in SA through the Select License or Open License programs (that is, once the user exercises such rights in connection with the user's Open/Select License).	Downgrade rights are granted in connection with all server software licenses acquired through FPP and OEM upon enrollment in SA through the Select License or Open License programs (that is, once the user exercises such rights in connection with the user's Open/Select License).
OEM End-User License Agreement (EULA)	Rights to OEM versions of applications software are granted in the OEM EULA. The OEM EULAs for OEM versions of applications software do not grant downgrade rights.	Rights to OEM versions of systems software are granted in the OEM EULA. The OEM EULAs for most OEM versions of systems software do not grant downgrade rights. The exception is the OEM EULA for Microsoft Windows XP Professional, which grants downgrade rights. See the full text of the OEM EULA for the specific downgrade rights.	Rights to server software are granted in the OEM EULA. The OEM EULAs for most OEM versions of server software do not grant downgrade rights. The exceptions are the OEM EULAs for Microsoft Windows Server 2003 operating system products and Microsoft Windows Small Business Server 2003 Premium Edition, which grant downgrade rights. See the full text of the applicable OEM EULA for the specific downgrade rights.

## **Microsoft** Volume Licensing

Software License Agreement Type	Applications Software	Systems Software	Server Software
FPP End-User License Agreement	Downgrade rights are not granted under most FPP and Microsoft License Pak (MLP) applications licenses.	Downgrade rights are not granted under most FPP system licenses, including:  Microsoft Windows  Microsoft Windows 95/98  Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional  Microsoft Windows XP Professional	Downgrade rights are not granted under most FPP server licenses. The exception is the FPP EULA for Microsoft Windows Server 2003. See the full text of the FPP EULA for the specific downgrade rights.

**Note:** The information above contains the downgrade rights for the most commonly acquired systems EULAs. For downgrade provisions for other systems licenses, please consult the EULA for the software in question.

## Q&A

Q. I have Microsoft Office XP, but only Microsoft Office 2003 Edition licenses are on the price list. My business currently has machines that have Office XP installed. What license do I need to buy to be able to run Office XP on new machines I will be purchasing?

A. If you buy the Microsoft Office 2003 Edition license through a Microsoft Volume Licensing program, you may use any prior version of the software in place of the version you order, including Office XP

Q. We are currently using Microsoft SQL Server 7.0. We need to allow Internet access to our Microsoft SQL Server server computer, and the Microsoft SQL Internet Connector is no longer available. What do we do?

A. Acquire a SQL Server 2000 per-processor license for the server machine that will be accessed over the Internet. When you do that, you are governed by the applicable Product Use Rights for that product. These use rights will continue to be applicable to how to use the product, even if you choose to downgrade to a previous version of Microsoft SQL Server. What this means for you is that the rights associated with the Microsoft SQL Server 2000 per-processor license that allow anyone, from anywhere, at any time, to access the Microsoft SQL Server data on that server would still be applicable even if you are using downgraded SQL Server 7.0 software bits on the server machine. Even though this option did not exist with SQL Server 7.0, by licensing the current product and using the current Product Use Rights and the applicable downgrade rights, you can run SQL Server 7.0 in this manner. This holds true for any new product acquired under the current Product Use Rights and downgrade rights associated with Microsoft Volume License agreements.

## Q. Can I downgrade my OEM version of Microsoft Windows XP Professional to Windows 98 (Second Edition)?

A. Yes. OEM Downgrade Rights for desktop operating systems apply to Windows XP Professional only. Please note, OEM downgrade versions of Windows XP Professional are limited to Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional, Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0, and Microsoft Windows 98 (Second Edition). End users can use the following media for their downgrade: Volume Licensing media (provided the end user has a Volume Licensing agreement), Retail (FPP), or System Builder hologram CD (provided the software is acquired in accordance with the Microsoft OEM System Builder License). The downgrade operating system is governed by the Windows XP Professional EULA, and the end user cannot use both the downgrade operating system and Windows XP Professional.

## Q. If I have Microsoft Office Professional Enterprise Edition 2003, what can I downgrade to?

**A.** Downgrade rights in the Volume Licensing programs provide customers with the right to downgrade to any prior version of the same product. Therefore, Microsoft Office Professional Enterprise 2003 can be downgraded to the Microsoft Office XP, 2000, 97, 95, or 4.3 versions. You would not, however, be able to downgrade to Microsoft Office Standard Edition 2003 as that is a different product and not considered a previous version of Microsoft Office Professional Enterprise Edition 2003.

Note: This Microsoft Volume Licensing Brief is provided for general informational purposes only. For the terms and conditions governing your use of Microsoft software, please refer to the applicable license agreement.